

DEF LEPPARD

ANIMAL

RICHARD BARRET plays and transcribes Phil Collen's main guitar parts from Def Leppard's 1987 hit Animal, taken from the album Hysteria.

WNERS of fabulous blond locks and a glossy style that would make even Dulux's finest paint blush with envy, Def Leppard represent everything that was great about the '80s.

The band's twin guitar arrangements during this period differed greatly from many of their contemporaries. Avoiding the effective (but wellused) trick of playing riffs in unison, Phil Collen and the late Steve Clark approached this song from completely different angles. Steve provided the power chord rhythm, while Phil superimposes alternative chord voicings and embellishments to add thickness to the overall arrangement.

Apart from this textural approach, the clever key changes within the track were another departure from the norm. For a start, the intro and verse are in Bb, shifting up a semitone to B for the bridge, then to a home key of F# for the chorus. On the CD, the main 'building blocks' of the song are featured: intro, bridge, chorus and solo (the verse is almost identical to the intro and solo sections.

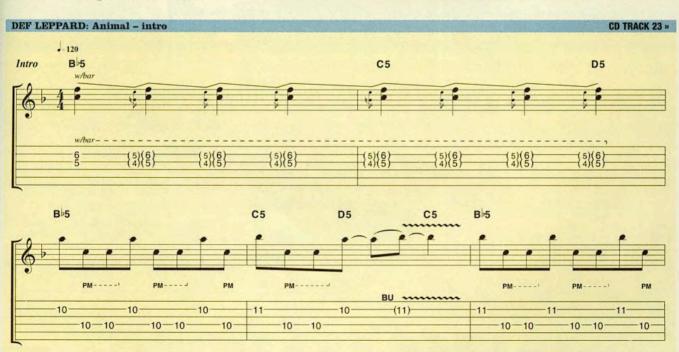
On the original recording, Phil Collen used a Jackson guitar fitted with a Kahler tremolo, through a Randall solid-state amplifier setup. The tone is very focused, with a mid-range bias and not too much distortion (no Metallica-type scooped modern metal here!). For the main guitar parts there is a hint of reverb and digital delay is used on the solo. Get that wig on and rock out! TG



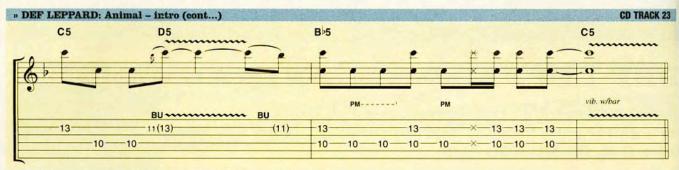


lone

It shouldn't be too hard to recreate Phil's tone go for a guitar with a bridge humbucker and a modern distortion tone. A locking tremolo bar isn't essential, as Phil's quite restrained with his whammying.







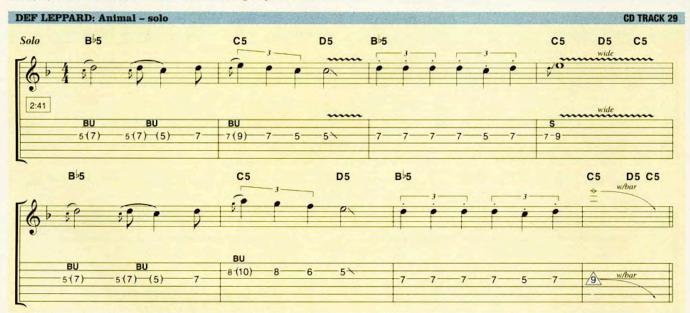
This is the intro section for one guitar (there are a lot more overdubbed on the original). Avoid strings ringing together, as this will obscure the melody.



Here is the melodic line Phil plays in the bridge, changing subtly for each chord. The fourth bar features a rare moment of the two guitars in unison.



As with the bridge section, Phil plays a repetitive single note figure over the chord progression. A memorable trick worth remembering for your own stuff.



The melodic nature of this solo suggests it may have been planned out in advance. Good luck nailing that final pinch harmonic with your picking hand!